THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

[*Translation*]

Contract Labour and Bonded Labour

2366 SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to abolish the system of contract labour as the bonded labour system has ben abolished with a view to save them from exploitation,

(c) whether the Government propose to regularise the services of contract labourers, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) (a) The Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 defines bonded labourers as "any labourer who incurs, or has, or is presumed to have incurred, a bonded debt" As per Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 "a workman shall be deemed to be employed as "contract labour" in or in connection with the work of an establishment when he is hired in or in connection with such work by or through a contractor, with or without the knowledge of the principal employer"

(b) The Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition Act, 1970 envisages regulation of the Contract Labour and for its abolition in certain circumstances only

(c) and (d) No, Sir A blanket proposal of this nature would be impractical It is for each establishment to take a decision in the matter

[*English*]

Shortage of Medicines in Super Bazar Branches

2367 SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of medicines in Super Bazar Branches located in Safdarjung Hospital and All India Institute of Medical Sciences,

(b) if so, whether any complaint has been received in this regard, and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) (a) to (c) Super Bazar has reported that there is no acute shortage of medicines in Super Bazar Branches located in Safdarjung Hospital and All India Institute of Medical Sciences However a few medicines have been in short supply from the manufacturers at times and such shortages have been generally felt in the market place also

[*Translation*]

Expansion of IFFCO

2368 SHRI RAJVEER SINGH Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the stage at which the programme for expansion in Indian Farmers Fertilizer Co-operative Limited, Aonla, stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR CHINTA MOHAN) IFFCO has